



## THE PHYSICIAN'S *Bookshelf*

**VISUAL AIDS IN CARDIOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT**—Edited by Arthur M. Master, M.D., and Ephraim Donoso, M.D. Sponsored by the American College of Chest Physicians. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y., 1960. 216 pages, \$10.00.

This monograph is an elaboration of the proceedings of the American College of Chest Physicians held on June 6, 1959, presented by a group of investigators from the Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York. The title of the text is somewhat misleading since the material covered is far more comprehensive than merely visual aids. The purpose of the monograph was to present the important principles and use of the newer graphic methods and techniques now available to diagnose, evaluate and treat a patient with heart disease. The rapid progress made in cardiovascular diseases and the new instruments and tools available for studying patients with heart disease make it necessary to periodically review and evaluate the newer techniques. Sixteen chapters by 23 authors cover a wide variety of subjects. These include phonocardiography, dye dilution studies, right and left heart catheterizations, vector cardiography, angiocardiology, selective angiocardiology, as well as chapters on surgical monitoring, anesthesia, the problems of pump oxygenators and postoperative treatment following cardiac surgery. The initial chapter broadly covers "the machine and physician of present day cardiology" and is a good introduction to that which follows. A well-illustrated chapter on the pathologic anatomy of surgically correctible congenital cardiac malformations is most helpful.

The chapters are written by experienced men in their fields, the text is well-illustrated and the material is up to date with a good bibliography at the end of each chapter. Although the coverage is not complete, for which no claim is made by the authors, this symposium is a most useful addition to the cardiac literature and will be of great interest to all physicians interested in being brought up to date on a most important area of medicine. The Mt. Sinai Hospital and the American College of Chest Physicians have collaborated to produce a very worthwhile book.

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**NEOPLASMS OF BONE AND RELATED CONDITIONS—Etiology, Pathogenesis, Diagnosis and Treatment—Second Edition**—Bradley L. Coley, M.D., Attending Surgeon (Emeritus), Bone Tumor Department, Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases, New York; Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., Medical Division of Harper & Brothers, 49 East 33rd Street, New York 16, N. Y., 1960. 863 pages, with 649 illustrations and 31 tables, \$30.00.

Not just a book, this a library crammed with information. Few details, however remotely connected with bone tumors, are left untouched—neoplasms in dinosaurs, amputation techniques, jurisprudence of osseous oncology, x-ray dosage, even rare conditions simulating bone tumors. Illustrations of histological pathology, though stingy in number, are unequivocal in the story they tell.

Such a joy to read. Clear, legible print. Illustrations that really illustrate, and—O, marvel of publishers' art—located on the same page as their discussion. No fine print to try the myopic patience. Bulging bibliographies—also in non-spastic print—document the writer's opinions.

Once started, the reader is reluctant to set down this easily read tome. Although an extra comma here and there would help interpretation of some of the subordinate clausal periodic sentences, still in general, the stately style and lucid logic flow smoothly.

The chapter on blood chemistry does not waste a word, and so constitutes a review well worth memorizing. The publisher will not enjoy being reminded that an upside down illustration in a book of this caliber is like hanging the Mona Lisa inverted in the Louvre.

A ray of optimism and hope is injected in this otherwise gloomy subject by the presentation of one or two successful and hence unusual cases at the end of each chapter.

ROBERT P. WATKINS, M.D.

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**P-Q-R-S-T—A Guide to Electrocardiogram Interpretation—Fourth Edition**—Joseph E. F. Riseman, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School. The Macmillan Company, 60 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y., 1960. 168 pages, \$6.50.

This is the fourth edition of Riseman's guide which was first published in 1944. There is no preface that indicates the reason for the fourth edition and in reviewing the text, one does not find obvious new things that may explain the new edition. For example, there is no account of the newer concepts of left ventricular conduction defects other than left bundle branch block and there is no discussion of the current concepts regarding axis deviation. In fact this is expressly denied when on page 108 it is stated that axis deviation by itself is of no clinical significance. This statement does not take into account the recent work of Grant and others who have shown that left axis deviation exceeding  $-30^\circ$  is due to a left ventricular conduction defect or anterolateral myocardial disease. The book is planned for the beginner as a practical guide and in the author's words is not intended to replace the standard textbooks of electrocardiology. The newer texts cover much of the material in this guide and therefore the need which was well filled by this guide in 1944 is less obvious now. The line drawings and the step by step explanations of interpretation are most helpful although some improvement in rendition of the contour of the S-T segment would be desirable. The atlas of electrocardiograms in the rear of the book and their complete interpretation and clinical correlation are sound and valuable.

In general this guide can be recommended as a reliable introduction to the subject for the beginner but will not be sufficient for the individual who wishes to extend his knowledge.